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1 1. (Currently amended) ~~A circuit card package~~ An apparatus, comprising:
2 a) a backplane having a backplane connector mounted thereon; and
3 b) a circuit card package, said circuit card package comprising:
4 i) a first circuit card ~~insertable~~ inserted into ~~a~~ said backplane connector on
5 a said backplane and having a first card edge connector mounted thereon;
6 ii) an interface adaptor board ~~secured to~~ inserted into said first card edge
7 connector and oriented in a plane orthogonal to said first circuit card; and
8 iii) at least one second card edge connector mounted to said interface
9 adaptor board and adapted to have secured thereto a respective one of at least
10 one second circuit card oriented parallel to said first circuit card;
11 iv) wherein said interface adaptor board is formed with wiring traces
12 interconnecting terminals of each of said at least one second card edge
13 connector with corresponding terminals of said first card edge connector.

1 2. (Currently amended) ~~The package according to~~ apparatus of Claim 1
2 further comprising:
3 a substantially planar faceplate bracket secured orthogonally to said first
4 circuit card, said faceplate bracket being formed with at least one opening each
5 for receiving a respective one of said at least one second circuit card
6 therethrough in a direction parallel to said first circuit card; and
7 a second bracket member secured to said first circuit card and to said
8 faceplate bracket, said second bracket member being formed from planar sheet
9 material and being bent at a right angle so as to have a first portion orthogonal to
10 said first circuit card and a second portion orthogonal to said faceplate bracket;
11 wherein said interface adaptor board is secured to said first portion of said
12 second bracket member.

1 3. (Currently amended) ~~The package according to~~ apparatus of Claim 2
2 further comprising:
3 at least one latch mechanism secured to said first portion of said second
4 bracket member and each cooperating with structure on a respective one of said

5 at least one second circuit card to selectively retain said respective second circuit
6 card in engagement with a respective one of said at least one second connector.

1 4. (Currently amended) The package ~~according to~~ apparatus of Claim 3
2 wherein each of said at least one second circuit card is formed with a respective
3 opening therethrough and each of said at least one latch mechanism includes a
4 spring biased pin adapted to extend through said respective card opening to
5 prevent movement of said respective second circuit card.

1 5. (Canceled)

1 6. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first circuit card has a
2 leading edge, wherein said leading edge extends beyond the connection of said
3 interface adapter board and said first card edge connector, and wherein said first
4 circuit card is inserted into said backplane connector.

1 7. (New) A circuit card package, comprising:
2 a first circuit card having a leading edge insertable into a connector on a
3 backplane and having a first card edge connector mounted thereon;
4 an interface adaptor board secured to said first card edge connector and
5 oriented in a plane orthogonal to said first circuit card, wherein said leading edge
6 of said first circuit card extends beyond the connection of said interface adapter
7 board and said first card edge connector; and
8 at least one second card edge connector mounted to said interface
9 adaptor board and adapted to have secured thereto a respective one of at least
10 one second circuit card oriented parallel to said first circuit card;
11 wherein said interface adaptor board is formed with wiring traces
12 interconnecting terminals of each of said at least one second card edge
13 connector with corresponding terminals of said first card edge connector.

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